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TWO LETTERS FOR S EEFED HIS MAGESTY.

To THE COMMONS
in Parliament.

The other CHALLENGE
MURKIN C K.

Read in the House of Commons assembled
in Parliament, Tuesday May 1. 1660.

See 25



...nibet
...Gothic
...in Psalms

...deinde
...in Psalms

CHARLES R.



Rent^y and Wellbeloved , We Greet you
well . In these great and insupportable af-
flictions and calamities under which the poor
Nation hath been so long exercised , and
by which it is so near exhausted , We can-
not think of a more Natural and proper Re-
medy , then to resort to those for Counsel
and Advice , who have seen and observed
the first beginning of our Miseries , the progresse from bad to
worse , and the mistakes and mis-understandings which have pro-
duced and contributed to inconveniences which were not in-
tended ; and after so many Revolutions , and the observation
of what hath attended them , are now trusted by Our good
Subjects to repair the Breaches which are made , and to provide
proper Remedies for those evils , and for Remedies of those
Evils , and for the lasting Peace , Happiness and Security of the
Kingdom .

We do assure you upon Our Royal word , that none of our
Predecessors have had a greater esteem of Parliaments , then
We have , in our judgement , as well as from our obligation ,
We do believe them to be the vital & part of the constitution of
the Kingdom , and so necessary for the Government of it , that
We well know , neither Prince nor People can be in any tole-
rable degree happy without them ; and therefore you may be
confident , that we shall alwayes look upon their Councells as the
best We can receive , and shall be as tender of their Priviledges ,
and as carefull to preserve and protect them , as of that which
is most neer to Our self , and most necessary for our Our own
preservation .

And as this is Our opinion of Parliaments , that their Au-
thority is most necessary for the Government of the Kingdom ,
so we are most confident , that you believe , and find that the
preservation of the Kings Authority is as necessary for the pre-
servation of Parliaments ; and that it is not the nature , but the
right constitution of them , which can prepare , and apply pro-
per remedies for those Evils , which are grievous to the People ,

and which can thereby establish their peace and security. And therefore we have not the least doubt, but that you will be as tender in, and as jealous of any thing that may infringe Our Honor, or impare Our Authority, as of your own Liberty and Property, which is best preserved, by preserving the other.

How far we have trusted you in this great affair, and how much it is in your power to restore the Nation to all that it hath lost, and to redeem it from any infamy it hath undergone, and to make King and People as happy as they ought to be, you will finde by our inclosed Declaration (a Copy of which we have likewise sent to the House of Peers) and you will easily believe that we would not voluntarily, and of our self have repos'd so great a trust in you, but upon an entire confidence, that you will not abuse it, and that you will proceed in such a manner, and with such due consideration of us, who have trusted you, that we shall not be ashamed of declining other assistance (which we have assurance of) and repairing to you for more natural and proper Remedies, for the Evils we would be freed from; nor sorry that we have bound up our own Interest so intirely with that of our Subjects, as that we refer it to the same persons to take care of us, who are trusted to provide for them. We look upon you as wise and dispassionate men, and good Patriots, who will raise up those Banks and Fences which have been cast down, and who will most reasonably hope the same prosperity will again spring from those Roots from which it hath heretofore, and always grown; nor can we apprehend that you will propose any thing to us, or expect any thing from us, but what we are as ready to give, as you to receive. If you desire the advancement and propagation of the Protestant Religion, We have by our constant profession and practice of it, given sufficient testimony to the world, That neither the unkindness of those of the same Faith towards us, nor the civilities and obligations from those of a contrary profession (of both which we have had abundant Evidence) could in the least degre scartle us, or make us swarve from it; and nothing can be proposed to manifest our zeal and affection for it, to which we will not readily consent. And we hope in due time, our self to propose somewhat to you for the propagation of it, that will suffice the world, that we have always made it both our Care, and

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our Study, and have enough observed what is most like to bring disadvantage to it. If you desire security for those who in these calamitous times, either wilfully or weakly have transgressed those bounds which were prescribed, and have invaded each others Rights; We have left to you to provide for their Security and Indempnity, and in such a way as you shall think Just and Reasonable, and by a just computation of what men have done and suffered, as neer as is possible, to take care that all men be satisfied, which is the surest way to supprese, and extirpate all such uncharitableness and animosity as might hereafter shake, and threaten that peace which for the present, might seem establisched. If there be a crying sin, for which the Nation may be involved in the Infamy that attends it, we cannot doubt but that you will be as solicitous to redeem and vindicate the Nation from that guilt and Infamy, as we can be. If you desire that reverence and obedience may be paid to the fundamentall Laws of the Land, and that Justice may be equally and impartially administred to all men; It is that which we desire to be sworn to our self, and that all persons in Power and Authority should be so too. In a word, there is nothing that you can propose, that may make the Kingdom happy, which we will not content with you to compasse; and upon this confidence and assurance, We have thought fit to send you this Declaration, that you may, as much as is possible, at this distiance, see our heart, which when God shall bring us neerer together (as we hope he will do shortly) will appear to you very agreeable to what we have professed, and we hope that we have made that right Christian use of our affliction, and that the observation and experience we have had in other Countries, hath been such, as this. We, and we hope all our Subjects shall be the better for what we have seen and suffered. We shall add no more but our prayers to Almighty God, That he will so blesse your Councils, and direct your Endeavours, that his Glory and Worship may be provided for, and the Peace, Honour, and Happinesse of the Nation may be established upon those Foundations which can best support it; and so we bid you farewell.

Given at our Court at Whitehall this 4th day of April, 1668. in the
twelfth year of our Reign. 14.
Superscribed, To our Trusty and well-beloved,
The Speaker of the House of Commons.

CHARLES R.



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Rusty and Wel-beloved, We greet you well: It cannot be believed, but that We have been, are, and ever must be, as Solicitous as we can, by all endeavours, to improve the Affections of our good Subjects at home, and to procure the Assistance of our Friends and Allyes abroad, for the Recovery of that Right, which by the Laws of G O D and Man, is unquestionable; and of which we have been so long dispossessed by such force, and with those circumstances, as we do not desire to agravate by any sharp ex-pressions, but rather wish, That the Memory of what is passed, may be buried to the World. That We have more endeavoured to prepare, and to improve the Affections of Our Subjects at home, for our Restoration, then to procure assistance from abroad, to invade either of Our Kingdoms, is as manifest to the World: And We cannot give a better evidence that We are still of the same minde, than in this Conjunction, when common reason must satisfie all men, that We cannot be without Assistance from abroad, We choose rather to send to you, who have it in your own power, to prevent that Ruine and Desolation which a War would bring upon the Nation, and to make the whole Kingdom owe the Peace, Happinesse, Security and Glory it shall enjoy, to your vertue; and to acknowledge that your Armies have complied with their obligations, for which they were first raised, for the preservation of the Protestant Religion, the Honour and Dignity of the King, the Priviledges of Parliament, the Liberty and Property of the Subject, and the Fundamental Laws of the Land;

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Land; and that you have vindicated that Trust, which others most perfidiously abused and betrayed: How much we desire and resolve to contribute to these good Ends, will appear to you by Our enclosed DECLARATION, which We desire you to cause to be Published for the information and satisfaction of all good Subjects, who do not desire a further effusion of precious Christian Blood, but to have their peace and Security founded upon that which can only support it; an Unity of Affections amongst our selves, an equal administration of Justice to Men, restoring Parliaments to a full capacity of providing for all that is amiss, and the Laws of the Land to their due veneration. You have been your selves Witnesses of so many Revolutions, and have had so much experience, how far any power and authority that is onely assumed by passion and appetite, and not supported by Justice, is from providing for the Happiness and Peace of the people, or from receiving any obedience from them without which no Government can provide for them, that you may very reasonably believe, that GOD hath not been well pleased with the Attempts that have been made, since He hath usually increased the Confusion, by giving all the successe that hath been desired, and brought that to passe without effect, which the designers have proposed, as the best means to settle and compose the Nation; And therefore We cannot but hope and believe, that you will concur with Us in the Remedy We have applyed, which, to humane understanding, is only proper for the Ills we all groan under; And that you wil make your selves the blessed Instruments to bring this blessing of Peace and Reconciliation upon King and People, it being the usual method in which Divine Providence delighteth it self, to use and sanctifie those very means which ill men design, for the satisfaction of private and particular Ends and Ambition, and other wicked purposes, to wholesome and publick ends, and to establish that Good which is most contrary to the Designers; which is the greatest manifestation of Gods peculiar kindness to a Nation, that can be given in this world. How far we resolve to preserve your Interests, and reward your Services,

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...and to give it to the Author, and to have this sent to you, and to give it in accompt of your Reception of it, and to desire you in our name, that it may be published. And so We bid you farewel.

John C. Green at Medina, this 1st of April, 1860. In
order to have my wife and children ready to avail myself of this service
this month of May, 1860; let them send word.

To our Trusty and wellbeloved General Monck, to be by him
communicated to the President and Council of State, and
to the Officers of the Armies under his Command,

the first time in the history of the world that a man has been able to do this.